(b) whether Government have estimated the time given to activities of ruling party, B.J.P. and other political parties in the country on these media during the month of November, 1994;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to issue necessary guidelines for the proportionate coverage of these political parties in news on Doordarshan and AIR; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. This information is not kept in a centrally compiled form.

(d) and (e) Guidelines are issued by the Government from time to time. Activities of various political parties are covered in the news bulletins strictly on the basis of their news value and newsworthiness.

Reservation in Allotment of Export Quota

*187. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether pursuant to the spirit of Clause (4) of Article 16 of the Constitution it is the policy of Government to provide for reservation of posts and opportunities in the State services for backward classes and weaker sections of society, and by way of providing self-employment opportunities by extending low-interest loans and credits;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not granting reservations for the weaker sections including Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in the allotment of export quota by the Apparel Exports Promotion Council; and

(c) whether Government have taken note of the fact that with liberalisation of economy job opportunities in 'State' services as contemplated under Act 16(4) are shrinking considerably?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) The Garment and Textile Export Entitlement Allotment Policies (Quota Policies) whose primary objective is maximization of the foreign exchange earnings, provides a framework for allocation of garment/textile quotas in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner. The exporting units which are eligible for allocation of quotas, have different types of organisational structures like proprietary concerns, partnerships, private limited companies, public limited companies etc. It is not possible to have a meaningful reservation policy in export quotas. As such, Government have not provided for reservation in favour of weaker sections including Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward classes in the matter of allotment of quotas. Government would examine the possibility of having a meaningful reservation in the export quotas.

Mahila Udhyam Nidhi

*188. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some financial assistance has been extended for women entrepreneurs on minimum promoters' contribution and equity type of assistance under the 'Mahila Udhyam Nidhi';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether new tiny and small scale units (whose cost of project does not exceed Rs. 20 lakhs) excluding margin for long term working capital alongwith working capital under single window scheme has also been introduced;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount allocated and released to Gujarat and Maharashtra under the 'Mahila Udhyam Nidhi Scheme' during the last three years, year-wise: and

(f) the items reserved for these units in the State of Gujarat and Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been operating Mahila Udhyam Nidhi (MUN) Scheme to provide equity type of assistance to women entrepreneurs for setting up new industrial projects in the Small Scale Industrial (SSI) sector. All new industrial projects in the SSI sector as also service activities which are eligible for finance as per SSI norms and set up by women entrepreneurs are eligible for assistance under the scheme provided the project cost does not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs. Assistance under the scheme is in the form of soft loan to meet the gap in the equity after taking into account the promoters' contribution to the project subject to a maximum of 15% of the project cost. No interest is levied on the soft loan but a nominal service charge of 1% per annum is payable annually. The repayment of assistance under MUN is required to be made in 10 years including a moratorium upto five years.

(c) and (d) SIDBI has been operating Single Window Scheme (SWS) since its inception under which composite assistance for fixed assets and working capital is extended to units in the SSI sector by the same agency. At present, the unit in the SSI sector with total project outlay upto Rs. 50 lakhs are covered under SWS. Apart from new units in tiny and SSI sector, assistance under the scheme can